

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
15 January 2004 (15.01.2004)

PCT

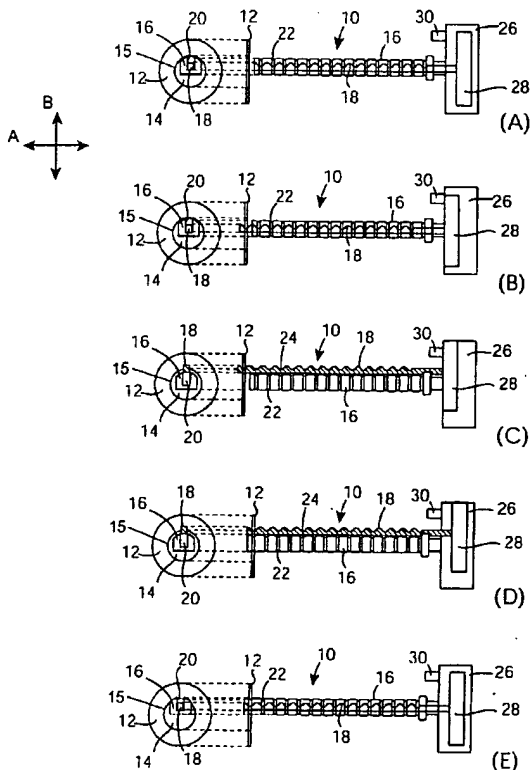
(10) International Publication Number  
WO 2004/004983 A2

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **B25J**
- (21) International Application Number:  
PCT/EP2003/007262
- (22) International Filing Date: 4 July 2003 (04.07.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
0215419.3 4 July 2002 (04.07.2002) GB
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **MO TEAM LIMITED** [GB/GB]; 25 Aghnadarragh Road, Crumlin, BT29 4QQ (GB).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **MORAN, Robert**

- [GB/GB]; 89 Lurgan Road, Crumlin, BT29 4QQ (GB).  
**MORAN, Barbara** [GB/GB]; 89 Lurgan Road, Crumlin, BT29 4QQ (GB).
- (74) Agents: **O'CONNELL, Maura** et al.; F.R. Kelly & Co., 4 Mount Charles, Belfast BT7 1NZ (GB).
- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ (utility model), CZ, DE (utility model), DE, DK (utility model), DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE (utility model), EE, ES, FI (utility model), FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK (utility model), SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: AN OBJECT HANDLING APPARATUS AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: The present invention is concerned with both a method and an apparatus for handling objects, in particular discs such as CD's or the like having an aperture therein defining a rim, the method comprising the steps of providing an elongate arm, and providing an elongate support adjacent the arm; extending the arm through the aperture of at least one of the discs; engaging the arm with the rim of the disc; retracting the arm such as to position the rim over the support; and displacing the arm such that the rim is engaged by the support, and then repeating this sequence of steps in order to stack a plurality of the discs onto the support for subsequent transfer and unloading.